

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 03389 200054Z  
ACTION EUR-12

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SP-02 SS-15 VO-05 PER-01 H-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00  
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-----051344 200819Z /23

R 190825Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9624  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CVIS, SREF, SHUM, RO  
SUBJ: AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO PASSPORT OFFICE DIRECTOR

1. ON MORNING OF MAY 18, AMBASSADOR ACCCOMPANIED BY CONSUL VISITED DIRECTOR OF PASSPORT OFFICE, MOI, LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROMEO POPESCU. POPESCU, WHO HAS BEEN HELPFUL TO CONSULAR SECTION IN PAST IN SOLVING PROBLEM CASES, HAD PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN MEETING AMBASSADOR.
2. DURING VISIT, AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT WHILE EMBASSY GENERALLY PLEASED WITH RECENT PERFORMANCE ON REPRESENTATION LIST APPROVALS, IN AFTERMATH OF PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S VISIT, IT WOULD BE HEARTENING TO SOLVE ADDITIONAL CASES. STARTING WITH MARRIAGES, AMBASSADOR PRESENTED LIST OF FIVE CASES WHERE APPLICATIONS HAD BEEN MADE IN 1975 AND 1976. GENERAL PROMISED HE WILL PERSONALLY TAKE NEW LOOK AT THESE CASES AND, WITHIN LIMITS OF HIS POWER, WILL SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE, INDICATING THAT REPLY WILL BE FORTHCOMING SOON.

3. AMBASSADOR ALSO EXPRESSED HIS PLEASURE IN FACT THAT MAY 5 APPROVAL LIST CONTAINED A NUMBER OF DUAL NATIONALS, HOPING THAT TREND WILL CONTINUE. POPESCU'S REPLY WAS

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PAGE 02 BUCHAR 03389 200054Z

THAT HE HAS ESTABLISHED GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH CONSUL AND WORKING TOGETHER PROBLEMS CAN BE SOLVED.

4. PASSPORT APPROVALS FOR EMBASSY EMPLOYEES TRAVELING ABROAD ON USG BUSINESS WAS MENTIONED NEXT BY AMBASSADOR, WHO POINTED OUT THAT PASSPORT OFFICE GOOD WILL AND ASSISTANCE ARE NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT SUCH EMPLOYEES WILL BE ABLE

TO UNDERTAKE NECESSARY TRAINING ABROAD. POPESCU REPLIED THAT NO SUCH CASES ARE NOW PENDING, AND THAT CURRENT PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING MATTER ARE ADQUATE.

5. AMBASSADOR CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS BY NOTING AGAIN USG AND CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN CONSULAR PROBLEMS AND EXPRESSING HOPE THAT CONSTANT RATE OF APPROVALS COULD BE MAINTAINED IN FUTURE.

6. POPESCU REPLIED THAT, GIVEN STATE OF OUR RELATIONS, THIS IS ALSO HIS HOPE. HE FOLLOWED BY REELING OFF STATISTICS POINTING OUT THAT OF APPROXIMATELY 920 (OUR REPLIST SHOWS 941) PERSONS IN OUR MARCH 28 REPLIST, 300 HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR DEPARTURE, 385 ARE BEIN ALLOWED TO APPLY FOR PASSPORTS, 80 ARE PENDING, 135 HAVE NOT APPROACHED AUTHORITIES TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN EMIGRATING, AND 18 ARE NOT INTERESTED IN LEAVING ROMANIA. AS FOR MARRIAGES, HE INDICATED THAT DATE FROM ROMANIAN RECORDS AND OUR REPLIST SHOWED 68 CASES. OF THESE 55 HAVE BEEN APPROVED OR ARE ON THE WAY TO APPROVAL, IN 5 CASES PARENTS HAVE NOT GIVEN PERMISSION FOR THE MARRIAGE, 7 CASES ARE PENDING, AND IN ONE CASE THE COUNCIL OF STATE HAS NO APPLICATION. POPESCU INDICATED THAT MFA HAS DETAILS ON THESE CASES; CONSUL WILL BE FOLLOWING UP AT CONSULAR DIRECTORATE TO RESOLVE DISCREPANCIES.

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PAGE 03 BUCHAR 03389 200054Z

7. WITH REGARD TO TOTAL APPROVALS (INCLUDING CASES NOT ON REPLIST), POPESCU STATED THAT SINCE JANUARY 1, GOR HAS APPROVED 750 PERSONS FOR EMIGRATION TO THE U.S., 520 FOR EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL, AND 3,700 FOR EMIGRATION TO THE FRG.

8. MEETING CLOSED WITH EXPRESSION OF GOOD WISHES AND PROMISE BY POPESCU TO VISIT EMBASSY SOON TO DELIVER REPLY ON FIVE MARRIAGE CASES PRESENTED.

9. COMMENTS: STATISTICS GIVEN BY POPESCU WITH REFERENCE TO OUR REPLIST, TOTAL APPROVALS FOR EMIGRATION TO THE U.S., AND MARRIAGES APPEAR TO BE REALISTIC. IN THE CASE OF OUR REPLIST, AS WE HAVE INCLUDED NAMES OF QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WHITH WHOM EMBASSY HAS HAD CONTACT DURING LAST TWO YEARS, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME APPLICANTS HAVE MOVED OR ARE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN EMIGRATING. IF MFA WILL SUPPLY DETAILS, EMBASSY PLANS TO FOLLOW THESE CASES UP WITH INVITATION LETTERS; IF NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME, CASES WILL BE DROPPED FROM REPLIST. WITH DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE, EMBASSY ALSO PROPOSES TO INCLUDE ON FUTURE REPLISTS ONLY APPLICANTS WHO HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH US DURING LAST 12 RATHER

THAN 24 MONTHS. DISCREPANCY ON NUMBER OF MARRIAGES  
(OUR REPLIST SHOWS 60) POSSIBLY DUE TO FACT THAT NOT ALL  
APPLICANTS INFORMED OR REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE.  
AS FAR AS APPROVED APPLICATIONS FOR DEPARTURE TO THE  
U.S., POPESCU'S FIGURE OF 750 MAY BE CORRECT AS TIME LAPSE  
BETWEEN GOR APPROVAL AND ACTUAL PASSPORT ISSUANCE AND  
SUBSEQUENT U.S. DOCUMENTATION TO DEPART IS ABOVE THREE  
MONTHS. EMBASSY EMIGRATION FIGURE FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1-  
APRIL 30 IS 400, INCLUDING 151 IMMIGRANT VISAS, 175 TCP,  
20 PAROLEES, AND 54 OTHERS WHO HAD EXIT VISAS FOR THE U.S.  
AND WERE ASSISTED IN DEPARTING FOR THE FRG OR AUSTRIA.  
AGGREY

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, EXIT VISAS, MARRIAGES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Type:** TE  
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